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...STORY of THE ORGANIZATION OF THE

United Spanish War Veterans

Auxiliary of United Spanish War Veterans Military Order of the Serpent Chronological History of War With Spain



An Extract from the "HISTORY OF THE SPANISH WAR"

and the organization of "SPANISH WAR VETERANS"

Compiled by

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1921

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In compiling a history of the organization of the United Spanish War Veterans, it would be impossible for any one man to do it without the assistance of those of the organization who are familiar with its history, and I gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the following comrades who have so kindly aided in the preparation of this history of the organization of The United Spanish War Veterans:

Comrade William E. English, Past Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade Charles R. Miller, Past Commander-in-Chief (Deceased).

Comrade Henry H. Saunders, Past Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Comrade George M. Moulton, Past Commander-in Chief.

Comrade Willis W. Stover, Past Commander-in-Chief.

There may be mistakes in this history, but I believe that in the main it is authentic.

This history of the organization is from the work that has been prepared by me as National Historian, entitled "History of the Spanish War" and the "Spanish War Veterans," which will be a book of about 200 pages and is ready for publication as soon as the National Organization desires it. It has been approved by three Commanders-in-Chief.

Fraternally,

W. D. TUCKER, National Historian.

History of the United Spanish War Veterans

THE DESIRE AMONG THOSE WHO served in the war with Spain to form associations to perpetuate the memories of the service life. and comradeship then created, manifested itself shortly after the volunteer forces were mustered out in 1898. in fact many claims are made that tentative plans were made by many before being mustered out to form veteran organizations. The efforts made were largely in the direction of forming associations national in scope and character, altho in Massachusetts a splendid society (Legion of Spanish War Veterans) was organized during the year 1899, all of the subdivisions of which were located within the borders of that state. In the movement to create a National Organization. there were different leaders in various localities, and widely divergent opinions as to name, declaration of principles, forms and ceremonies and other matters, all of which resulted in the organization of three distinct National Societies which were termed "Spanish War Veterans," "Spanish-American War Veterans" and "Service Men of the Spanish War."

These societies were all finally patterned in essentials after the "Grand Army of the Republic," and served a high purpose in bringing before the eligibles in different parts of the country the importance of the war in which they had been engaged, and of organi-

zation for the purpose hereinbefore indicated, and the inculcation of patriotic principles. Too much credit cannot be given to the pioneers in this movement, who, amid many discouragements, persevered in the work and enrolled in the various societies a large number of those who served in the war with Spain and, in due time, many who had seen service in the Philippines and in China, thus laying a solid foundation upon which was built up the National Organization as it now exists.

But the men affiliated in these societies, all of whom had served under one National Flag, did not take long to decide that the commemoration of that service should be made and continued under the banner of one National Organization. In accordance with this sentiment and thru the untiring efforts, wise counsels and comradely concessions of the members of the joint committee, and particularly of Comrades Harold C. Megrew, William E. English and George M. Moulton, Commanders-in-Chief respectively of the "Spanish War Veterans," "Spanish-American War Veterans" and "Service Men of the Spanish War," these three societies were united, on April 18, 1904, under one name and one government.

The name chosen for the amalgamated organization was "The United Spanish War Veterans," and this name, altho, in the opinion of many, less to be preferred than the name of any one of the original societies, has been continued and will doubtless endure to the end.

In 1907 the organization welcomed into the ranks the Massachusetts "Legion of Spanish War Veter-

ans." The "Legion," as it was familiarly called, was organized on the same lines as its contemporaneous national associations, and its subordinate subdivisions which were termed "Camps," were recruited mainly from volunteers who had formed the quota of the Commonwealth in the war with Spain. The "Legion" became the Department of Massachusetts, U. S. W. V., and is second only to the Department of New York in total membership.

In 1908 the "Veteran Army of the Philippines," a society composed of men who were serving or had seen active service in the islands and formed on the same lines as the "Legion," sought and gained admission in the National Organization as a Department of eight camps. From the beginning the officials of the National Headquarters (wherever located) have used their best endeavors to promote the interests of our comrades in the Philippines and, from the beginning, the Department has performed its duty to the organization.

* Two societies, the members of which served in the same war, and which are professedly national in scope and character, still remain outside our portals. These societies are called the "Army of the Philippines" and the "American Veterans of Foreign Service." Many of their members are affiliated with us, and it is hoped that they will be merged into our National Organization, retaining, if they see fit, their identity as wheels within a great wheel, as is the case with societies which have been formed to commemorate the campaigns in Cuba and the China Relief Expedition.

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The Commanders-in-Chief of the United Spanish War Veterans have been as follows:

Harold C. Megrew, Indiana, Apr. 18 to Aug. 31, 1904.

Wm. E. English, Indiana, September 1, 1904, to Dec. 31, 1905.

Chas. R. Miller, Ohio, Jan. 1, 1905, to Dec. 31, 1906.

Hamilton Ward, New York, Jan. 1, 1907, to Sept. 11, 1907.

Walter S. Hale, California, 1907-1908.

Chas. W. Newton, Connecticut, 1908-1909.

Edward J. Gihon, Massachusetts, 1909-1910.

Joseph R. H. Jacoby, Washington, 1910-1911.

Maurice Simmons, New York, 1911-1912.

Oscar Taylor, Pennsylvania, 1912-1913.

John Lewis Smith, D. C., 1913-1914.

Charles W. Cramer, Ohio, 1914-1915.

L. C. Dyer, Mo., 1915-1916.

D. V. Chisholm, D. C., 1916-1917.

Henry W. Busch, Michigan, 1917-1918.

Carl Van Dyke, Minnesota, 1918, died in office.

William Jones, New York, advanced from Senior Vice to Commander-in-Chief by death of Carl Van Dyke.

William Jones, New York, 1919-1920.

J. K. Witherspoon, Washington, 1920, incumbent.

Commander-in-Chief Harold C. Megrew assumed and held office in pursuance of the Amalgamation Agreement. Commander-in-Chief William E. English held office until December 31, 1904, in pursuance of the same agreement, and was elected to suc-

ceed himself and to serve for the year 1905, at the First National Encampment U. S. W. V., held at St. Louis, Mo., in September, 1904. The succeeding National Encampments have been as follows:

1905, Milwaukee, Wis.

1906, Washington, D. C.

1907, Cedar Point, Ohio.

1908, Boston, Mass.

1909, Tacoma, Wash.

1910, Denver, Colo.

1911, Oklahoma City, Okla.

1912, Atlantic City, N. J.

1913, Buffalo, N. Y.

1914, Louisville, Ky.

1915, Scranton, Pa.

1916, Chicago, Ill.

1917, Cleveland, Ohio

1918, Baltimore, Md.

1919, San Francisco, Calif.

1920, St. Louis, Mo.

1921, to be held in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn.

One great source of strength of the organization is that it is absolutely democratic in character. Each member is on the same basis as every other member, except as he may become distinguished by faithful performance of the duties allotted to him, or the duties as a Comrade, which he may quietly assume.

Few men of high rank in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps have contributed largely to the upbuilding of the organization. The work has been done largely

by members who were officers of medium rank, and by those who were enlisted men. Many of our Commanders-in-Chief were enlisted men.

Congress has recognized the organizations as distinctly representative as veterans of the nation and because of endeavors of its members thru its legislative committee has conferred valuable benefits upon them, and it behooves every man who served in the war with Spain, Philippine Insurrection and China Relief Expedition to join our ranks and be an actual supporter of the organization that has made it possible that those of our number who are in any way disabled to receive just compensation, also for the benefits for the widows and orphans, and not the least for the Comradeship it enhances. Every man will be the better man, better citizen, and will be 100 per cent. American, who becomes a member of the ONLY ORGANIZATION WHICH IS COMPOSED OF VOLUNTEERS.

> W. D. TUCKER, National Historian, U. S. W. V.



The Auxiliary of the United Spanish War Veteraus

THE LADIES' AUXILIARY OF THE United Spanish War Veterans was organized before the Spanish War Veterans. A group of patriotic women in Cleveland organized at the time of the Spanish War to aid the boys in camp and meet the trains and minister to the sick on the return home.

The organization was chartered by the National Organization in 1904 and held its first National En-

campment in St. Louis.

The first President General was "Mother" Isabelle Alexander of Cleveland, Ohio, and it is through her efforts that the organization was chartered by the

Spanish War Veterans.

The organization is on the same lines as the United Spanish War Veterans, having National and Department and Local Auxiliaries. Those eligible are Mothers, Wives, Daughters and Sisters of Spanish War Veterans, and Nurses and Women who actually did patriotic service during the Spanish War.

They are a great help to Camps; Camps having Auxiliaries are the most active in the order. In legislative work they have become a power since women have the vote, and the Comrades can thank the Aux-

iliary for bringing across recent legislation.

Their function is to care for the sick and distressed families of the Spanish War Veterans, assist in Patriotic services, see that respect to the flag and uniform is taught in the schools and assist Camps in social affairs.

W. D. TUCKER,

National Historian.

History of the Organization of the

Auxiliary of United Spanish War Veteraus

From data furnished by Isabelle Alexander, Past President General

CTOBER 22, 1898, "THE WHITE Escort" of Cleveland, Ohio, obtained a State Charter under the laws of Ohio. In 1900, by request of Cramer Camp Spanish War Veterans, Cleveland, Ohio, "The White Escort" became an Auxiliary to Cramer Camp. Major C. F. Cramer, after being elected Department Commander of Ohio in 1900, asked the Auxiliary at Cleveland to organize throughout Ohio, Auxiliaries to all camps of the Spanish War Veterans, and to that end a charter was applied for and granted under the laws of Ohio, of which Isabelle Alexander was sponsor and was so notified by the Department of Ohio, S. W. V., September, 1900. This Ohio charter was retained until June 1, 1904.

During the year 1901 there was organized a number of Auxiliaries in Ohio, and there sprang up another order in Washington, D. C. Mr. L. C. Dyer, then Adjutant General of the National Spanish War Veterans, asked Mrs. John A. Logan the use of her name to help in the formation of the same. This she granted him. In this year the Service Men of the Spanish War took an Auxiliary, Mrs. Mary

A. Cooper, President. Also the Spanish American War Veterans formed an Auxiliary, Mrs. Richard H. Savage being President.

During the year 1902 the Spanish War Veterans desired that all Veterans of the War with Spain and all Auxiliaries join hands and form one large organization, and the first meeting was called at Detroit, Michigan, September 22, 1902. Mrs. Flora A. Lewis was at this time elected President of this joint meeting. All auxiliaries were to retain their special charters until the Amalgamation took place. During 1903 the union of the Ohio Auxiliary to the Spanish War Veterans and the Auxiliary of the Spanish-American War Veterans took place at Youngstown, Ohio, Mrs. Madie M. Freed being President. At New Haven, Connecticut, was held the second joint meeting in 1903. Mrs. Isabelle Alexander was elected President and ordered to form, during the year, a National Auxiliary to the new Amalgamated United Spanish War Veterans. New rules and regulations and ritual were written and a formal application for National Charter was submitted to Gen. Harold C. McGrew, Commander-in-Chief of the United Spanish War Veterans. This charter was granted to The National Auxiliary by the amalgamated body at Indianapolis, Indiana, to Isabelle Alexander, May 1, 1904, and was issued June 1, 1904, and was ratified at St. Louis, Missouri, by the National Convention, U. S. W. V., September 19, 1904. Col. William E. English, Commander-in-Chief.

Isabelle Alexander was re-elected President General. Mary E. Gedney was elected President Gen-

eral at Milwaukee, 1906, and re-elected at Washington, D. C., 1907.

In 1907 "The Legion of Spanish War Veterans" of Massachusetts and Auxiliary of same was admitted to the United Spanish War Veterans, and Elizabeth McNamara was elected President General at Cedar Point, Ohio, and re-elected 1909.

President Generals since have been: Ida M. Galloway, 1910-1911. Katherine Fellows, 1912-1913. Jessie B. Perry, 1914. Mary B. Hamilton, 1915. Anna K. Juneau, 1916. Elizabeth Hartung, 1917. Violet B. King, 1918. Minnie Lenhardt, 1919. Louise Williams, 1920.

W. D. TUCKER,

National Historian.

The Military Order of the Serpent

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE SERpent is the outgrowth of the fertile minds of Walter Scott MacAaron, Col. Fred S. Fanning, Col. John S. Parker and others, and takes its basis from the ancient rites observed by the several tribes of Filipinos and the ordeals passed thru by the Gilmore party when captured by the natives.

The organization is chartered by the State of Ohio and has been extended to nearly every department of the U. S. W. V., each state having its Grand Lair, and camps local lairs.

The Grand Lair of Ohio for a number of years held the honors of having the most active lairs and largest membership, but thru lack of interest, and luke warmness, lost that honor for a time, but now, thru the efforts of Past Grand Gu Gu Henry and the present Grand Gu Gu Buckland, the Grand Lair of Ohio has regained its prestige and ranks with others.

The "Snaix," as it is familiarly called, provides an outlet for the suppressed "pep" of the members of the U. S. W. V. and is composed of two degrees, the first the Khattee Puna, and the second the Bayana. Camps which have local lairs are the most active camps in the organization, and a man, to be a good, active comrade in the U. S. W. V., must be a good "Snaix" and vice versa.

The great time for the Order of the Serpent is the Annual Crawl at Department and National Encampments, when Comrades are inducted and instructed in the sacred rites of Khattee Puna and allowed to partake of the sacred Virus, and can only be taken by those who are loyal comrades in good standing in their camp.

W. D. TUCKER, Past Grand Gu Gu.

Chronological History of War With Spain

Compiled by

M. D. Tucker, National Historian from

"Mright's Official History of Spanish-American War"

1895

- February 24.—Insurgents rose against Spanish tyranny in Santiago, Santa Clara and Matanzas provinces.
- March 4.—Governor-General proclaimed martial law in Santiago and Matanzas. Julio Sanguily, J. Augirre and other suspected Cuban sympathizers arrested and incarcerated in Cabanas prison at Hayana.
- March 8.—American mail steamship "Allianca" fired upon by Spanish gunboat.
- March 10.—First battle of the war at Los Negros, between 1,000 Spanish under General Garrich and 700 Cubans under Colonel Goulet. Spaniards defeated. Spanish reinforcements arrive from Porto Martinez. Campos appointed Captain-General to succeed Colleja, and sent to Cuba with 20,000 troops. Martial law proclaimed over whole island.
- March 24.—Pitched battle at Jaraguanna between 1,000 Spanish troops under Colonel Araoz, and 900 Cubans under Amador Guerra.
- March 31.—Antonio Maceo, with Flor Cromber, Dr. Frank Agramonte, Jose Maceo and other officers, landed at Baracoa with expedition from

Costa Rica in the British schooner "Honor." Schooner wrecked and captain killed by Spaniards. Later attacked Maceo at Duaba, but were repulsed. Agramonte captured. Provisional government proclaimed by Maceo; Dr. Thomas Estrada Palma, president; Jose Marti, secretarygeneral; General Maximo Gomez, military director and commander-in-chief.

- April 13.—General Maximo Gomez, Jose Marti and eighty companions arrived from Hayti and landed on the coast southwest of Cape Maysi.
- April 16.—Captain-General Campos landed with reinforcements at Guantanamo and issued proclamation pledging reforms. Spanish Cortes authorized government to raise 600,000,000 pesetas (\$120,000,000) for war, and decided to send 40,000 reinforcements.
- April 16-18.—Battles at and near Sabana de Jaibo. Cuban cavalry under Gomez defeated Colonel Bosch.
- April 21.—Battle of Ramon de las Jaguas; 100 Spaniards killed.
- April 29.—Jose Maceo ambuscaded 700 Spaniards at Arroyo Hondo; 150 Spaniards killed and heavy Cuban losses.
- May 6-14.—Raids and fights at Joito and Cristo by Maceo; Spanish Lieutenant-Colonel Bosch killed.
- May 18.—Insurgent Convention elected Bartolome Masso president, Maximo Gomez general-in-chief, and Antonio Maceo commander-in-chief of the Oriental division.
- May 19.—Jose Marti and party of 50 annihilated by Colonel Sandoval and 800 troops in a narrow pass; Gomez with reinforcements attempted to rescue Marti's body, and was wounded; Cuban losses, 50 killed and 100 wounded. Dr. Thomas

- Estrada Palma elected to succeed Marti as delegate to the United States.
- May 20.—Colonel Lacret and Colonel Torres landed with filibustering expedition of 220 men from Jamaica.
- June 2.—Gomez crossed trocha and entered province of Puerto Principe.
- June 5.—General Carlos Roloff's filibustering expedition, with 353 men, 1,000 rifles and 500 pounds of dynamite, landed by tugboat "George W. Childs" near Sagua Lachico, in Santa Clara.
- June 12.—President Cleveland issued proclamation warning citizens against joining or aiding filibustering expeditions.
- June 18.—Province of Puerto Principe declared in a state of siege.
- June 27.—Captain-General Campos asked Cabinet for 14,000 fresh troops.
- July 1.—Campos established Moron-Jucara trocha to keep Gomez out of Santa Clara Province.
- July 13.—Captain-General Campos, at head of 1,500 troops, attacked but defeated by Cubans under Maceo near Valenzuela, and compelled to retreat to Bayamo; Spanish General Santocildes and 119 men killed; Cuban loss 100 men.
- July 15.—Provisional Government formally constituted and a declaration of independence proclaimed.
- August 7.—Cuban Convention at Puerto Principe elected the following officers: Provisional President of the Republic of Cuba, General Bartolome Masso; Minister of the Interior, Marquis of Santa Lucia; Vice-President and Minister of War, General Maximo Gomez; Secretary of Foreign

- Affairs, Gonzalo de Quesada; General-in-Chief, Gen. Antonio Maceo.
- August 31.—Spaniards defeated by 1,200 men under Jose Maceo, near Ramon de le Jaguas.
- September 23.—Constitution of Cuban Republic proclaimed by Congress of Delegates at Anton de Puerto Principe and the following elected permanent officers of the government: President, Salvador Cisneros; Vice-President, Bartolome Masso; Secretary of War, Carlos Roloff; Commander-in-Chief, Mazimo Defeate; Lieutenant-General, Antonio Maceo.
- October 2.—Maceo defeated superior force of 2,000 Spaniards at Mount Mogote.
- October 9.—Cuban loan of 15,000,000 pesos (\$3,-000,000) placed in Paris.
- October 10.—Barracoa captured by Cubans.
- October 27.—General Carlos M. de Cespedes landed near Barracoa with filibustering expedition of 62 men, 100 rifles and 10,000 pounds of ammunition, fitted out in Canada. "Laurada" seized at Charleston, S. C., as a filibuster.
- November 18-19.—Spanish forces under General Valdes, Luque and Aldave defeated at Taguasco; Spanish loss 500.
- December 26.—Gomez invaded the loyal Province of Havana.

- January 5.—Gomez broke through Spanish intrenchments and raided Pinar del Rio.
- January 12.—Maceo raided Pinar del Rio Province.
- January 17.—Captain-General Campos recalled to Madrid and General Valerina Weyler appointed to succeed him.

- January 26.—Filibuster "J. W. Hawkins," carrying General Calixto Garcia and 120 men, sunk off Long Island and ten men drowned.
- January 30.—Maceo recrosses Habana-Batabano trocha; Spaniards severely defeated by Diaz near Artemisia.
- February 10.—General Weyler at Havana on the cruiser "Alfonso XIII," and was enthusiastically greeted.
- February 17.—Weyler issued three proclamations establishing rigid martial law.
- February 18.—Maceo attacked and captured Jaruco; the next day he joined Gomez and together they marched eastward.
- February 22.—Eighteen non-combatants killed by Spanish troops in Punta Brava and Guatao, and two American correspondents who investigated outrage arrested.
- February 24.—Filibuster "Bermuda" seized by United States marshals; General Garcia and others arrested, tried and acquitted.
- February 28.—Senate adopted belligerency resolutions and requested President to use "friendly offices" to secure Cuban independence.
- March 5.—Weyler issued proclamation offering amnesty to Cubans who surrendered with arms in hand.
- March 8.—Eighteen thousand Spanish reinforcements landed at Havana.
- March 12.—"Commodore" landed a filibustering expedition from Charleston.
- March 13.—Maceo captured the town of Batabano.
- March 15.—Maceo re-entered the Pinar del Rio Province and attacked the town of Pinar del Rio.

- March 22.—Gomez captured the town of Santa Clara and secured a large amount of military stores.
- March 25.—"Bermuda" landed General Garcia with 125 men and arms in Cuba. "Three Friends" and "Mallory" landed big expedition under General Collazo on the coast of Matanzas Province.
- April 6.—House of Representatives concurred in Senate's Cuban resolution.
- April 25.—American filibustering schooner "Competitor" captured off coast of Pinar del Rio. Alfredo Laborde and three Americans made prisoners.
- April 27.—"Bermuda" fired upon by Spanish gunboat while trying to land expedition under Colonel Vidal and Torres and forced to abandon the attempt.
- May 14.—Gomez captured a whole Spanish battalion under Colonel Segura.
- May 16.—"Laurada" landed General J. W. Ruiz and expedition in Cuba.
- May 29.—"Three Friends" landed large cargo of ammunition in Santa Clara.
- June 3.—Consul-General Fitzhugh Lee arrived at Havana as the sucessor of Ramon O. Williams, resigned.
- June 18.—Expedition under Zarrago, Castillo and Cabrera landed by "Three Friends" and "Laurada."
- July 5.—Jose Maceo killed in an engagement at Loma del Gato.
- July 15.—General Inclan badly defeated by Maceo at Caracarajicara; 200 killed and nearly 300 wounded.

- July 30.—President Cleveland issued another proclamation against filibustering.
- August 15.—General Rabi defeated Spaniards near Bayamo, killing 200.
- December 7.—General Antonio Maceo and Francisco Gomez, son of the rebel commander-in-chief, were killed in an engagement with a Spanish detachment under Major Cirujeda, just after Maceo had succeeded in passing around the end of the Mariel trocha. Dr. Zertucha, the only member of the staff who escaped, was accused of treachery. He surrendered to the Spanish.
- December 15.—"Three Friends" tried to land a large expedition at the mouth of the San Juan river, on the south coast of Cuba, but was fired on by a Spanish gunboat and compelled to put to sea again with her party, setting them down on a desert Florida key, where they were rescued by "Dauntless."
- December 20.—General Ruiz Rivera succeeded Maceo as commander-in-chief of the Cuban army of the West.
- December 28.—Julio Sanguily was tried and sentenced to imprisonment for life on a charge of conspiring against the Spanish government.
- December 31.—Filibuster "Commodore" sailed from Jacksonville with a small expedition for Cuba and sank 16 miles off the Florida coast. Most of the men were saved.

January 13.—Spaniards under General Segura attacked General Calixta Garcia at Gabuquito and were repulsed with a loss of 300 men killed and 400 wounded.

- February 4.—Queen Regent of Spain signed a decree instituting reforms in Cuba.
- February 21.—Secretary of State Olney directed Minister Taylor, at Madrid, to demand a full inquiry into the case of Dr. Ricardo Ruiz, who was murdered in prison, in Guanabacoa, by the Spaniards.
- March 4.—General Weyler returned to Havana.
- March 21.—Insurgents captured Holguin.
- March 28.—General Ruiz Rivera, who succeeded Antonio Maceo, was captured with 100 men at Cabezedas by General Hermandez Velasco.
- March 30.—"Laurada" landed at Banes, on the north coast of Santiago, three dynamite guns, one Hotchkiss gun and a large quantity of ammunition.
- April 17.—Weyler declared that the province of Santa Clara and part of Puerto Principe were pacified.
- May 12.—Generals Calixto Garcia and Rabi defeated Spanish troops under General Lonos and compelled them to retreat on shipboard at Cabocoruz.
- May 17.—President McKinley sent a message to Congress suggesting an appropriation of \$50,000 to relieve the distress of American citizens in Cuba. It was passed by Congress and signed May 24.
- June 21.—General Weyler sailed from Havana for Santa Clara Province, preceded by 36 battalions of infantry and strong forces of artillery and cavalry.
- June 27.—General Weyler reached the city of Santiago.

- November 10.—Marshal Blanco sent a cable to Senor de Lome, Spanish Minister at Washington, announcing that extensive zones of cultivation had been marked out, rations issued to the reconcentrados, and promised that thereafter they would be fed and treated well.
- November 14.—General Blanco sent envoys to insurgent generals to induce them to lay down their arms.
- November 18.—Crew of the American schooner "Competitor" captured in 1896 and all sentenced to death were released.
- November 25.—Dr. Frank Agramonte, Thomas J. Sainz and other Americans imprisoned in Havana were released by Marshal Blanco.
- November 26.—Queen Regent of Spain signed royal decrees granting political and commercial autonomy to Cuba.
- December 2.—Bishop of Havana appealed for food for starving reconcentrados.
- December 9.—Antonio Rodriguez Rivera, an envoy sent by Blanco to bribe the insurgents, was hanged by the insurgent leader Emilio Collazo.
- December 10.—Insurgents captured the seaport town of Caimanera.
- December 28.—President McKinley issued an appeal to the country to aid starving Cubans.

January 8.—A second appeal issued by President McKinley for contributions to aid suffering Cubans announced the co-operation of the American Red Cross Society.

- January 12.—Rioters instigated by volunteers in Havana made a demonstration against newspaper offices.
- January 17.—General Lee, in communications to the State Department, suggested that a ship be sent to protect Americans in the event of another riot.
- January 21.—General Castellanos, with 2,600 troops, raided Esperanza, the seat of the insurgent government in the Cubites Mountains. Government officials escaped.
- January 24.—Battleship "Maine" ordered to Havana for the purpose of resuming the friendly intercourse of our naval vessels in Cuban waters.
- January 25.—Battleship "Maine" arrived at Havana and moored at the government anchorage. Filibuster steamer "Tillie" foundered in Long Island Sound; four men drowned.
- January 27.—Brigadier-General Aranguren was surprised and killed in his camp near Tapaste, Havana Province, by Lieutenant-Colonel Benedicto, with the Spanish Reina Battalion. He had recently put to death Lieutenant-Colonel Ruiz, who had brought him an offer of money from Blanco to accept autonomy.
- February 9.—Copy of a letter written by Dupuy de Lome attacking President McKinley, printed. Senor Dupuy de Lome admitted writing the letter, and his recall was demanded by the State Department.
- February 15.—Battleship "Maine" blown up in Havana harbor; 264 men and two officers killed. Spanish Minister de Lome sailed for Spain.
- February 16.—General Lee asked for a court inquiry on the "Maine" disaster.

- February 17.—Captains W. T. Sampson and F. E. Chadwick, and Lieutenant-Commanders W. P. Potter and Adolph Marix, detailed as Naval Board of Inquiry.
- February 18.—Spanish warship "Vizcaya" arrived at New York harbor.
- February 21.—Naval court of inquiry arrived at Havana and began investigation.
- February 25.—"Vizcaya" sailed from New York to Havana.
- March 6.—Spain unofficially asks for Lee's recall.
- March 8.—\$50,000,000 war fund voted unanimously by the House of Representatives.
- March 9.—War fund of \$50,000,000 passed unanimously by the Senate.
- March 12.—Government purchased Brazilian cruiser "Amazonas" and other ships abroad.
- March 14.—Spain's torpedo flotilla sailed for Cape Verde Islands.
- March 17.—Senator Redfield Proctor, in a speech to the Senate, told of the starvation and ruin he had observed in Cuba.
- March 21.—"Maine" Court of Inquiry finished its report and delivered it to Admiral Sicard at Key West.
- March 22.—"Maine" report sent to Washington.
- March 25.—"Maine" report delivered to the President and officially announced that the "Maine" was blown up by a mine.
- March 26.—President McKinley sent two notes to Spain, one on the "Maine" report, and the other calling for the cessation of the war in Cuba.
- March 28.—President McKinley sent the "Maine" report to Congress, with a brief message stating

- that Spain had been informed of the Court's findings. Report of the Spanish Court of Inquiry, declaring the "Maine" was destroyed by an interior explosion, was received in Washington.
- March 30.—President McKinley, through Minister Woodford, asked Spain for a cessation of hostilities in Cuba, and negotiations for ultimate independence.
- March 31.—Spain refuses to accede to any of President McKinley's propositions.
- April 1.—House of Representatives appropriated \$22,648,000 to build war vessels.
- April 6.—Pope cabled President McKinley to suspend extreme measures pending the Vatican's negotiations with Spain.
- April 7.—Ambassadors of England, Germany, France, Italy, Austria and Russia appealed to the President for peace.
- April 9.—Spain ordered Blanco to proclaim an armistice in Cuba. General Lee and Americans left Hayana.
- April 11.—President sent consular reports and messages to Congress, asking authority to stop the war with Cuba.
- April 16.—United States Army began moving to the
- April 19.—Both Houses of Congress adopted resolutions declaring Cuba free, and empowering the President to compel Spain to withdraw her army and navy.
- April 20.—President McKinley signed the resolutions and sent his ultimatum to Spain, and the Queen Regent sent a warlike message to the Cortes.

- April 21.—Minister Woodford was given his passport.
- April 22.—The President issued his proc! mation to the neutral powers, announcing that Spain and the United States were at war. Commodore Sampson's fleet sailed from Key West to begin a blockade of Havana. Gunboat "Nashville" captured the Spanish ship "Buena Ventura."
- April 23.—President issued a call for 125,000 volunteers.
- April 24.—Spain formally declared that war existed with the United States.
- April 25.—Commodore Dewey's fleet ordered to sail from Hong Kong for the Philippines.
- April 27.—Matanzas bombarded by the "New York," Cincinnati," and "Puritan."
- April 30.—Admiral Cevera left the Cape Verde Islands for the West Indies,
- May 1.—Commodore Dewey defeated Admiral Montojo in Manila Bay, destroying eleven ships and killing and wounding more than 500 of the enemy. American casualties, seven men slightly wounded.
- May 11.—Commodore Dewey promoted to be a Rear-Admiral. Attacks made on Cienfuegus and Cardenas, at which Ensign Worth Bagley and five of the "Winslow's" crew were killed. Admiral Cervera's squadron sighted off Martinique.
- May 12.—Commodore Sampson bombarded San Juan, Porto Rico, but caused little damage.
- May 13.—The Flying Squadron, under Commodore Schley, left Hampton Roads for Cuban waters.
- May 17.—Cervera's fleet, after coaling at Curacoa, put into the Harbor of Santiago de Cuba.

- May 22.—Cruiser "Charleston" sailed from San Francisco for Manila.
- May 24.—Battleship "Oregon" arrived off Jupiter Inlet, Florida, from her great trip from San Francisco, which she left March 12.
- May 25.—The President issued his second call for volunteers, 75,000 men. First Manila expedition left San Francisco.
- May 27.—Commodore Schley discovered that Cervera's fleet was in Santiago harbor and blockaded him.
- May 30.—Commodore Sampson's fleet joined Commodore Schley's.
- May 31.—Forts commanding the entrance to Santiago harbor bombarded.
- June 3.—Hobson and seven men sank the "Merrimac" in the channel entrance to Santiago harbor and, being captured, were confined to Morro Castle.
- June 6.—Spanish cruiser "Reina Mercedes" sunk in the Santiago harbor entrance by the Spaniards to prevent ingress of American war vessels.
- June 11.—Body of marines landed at Guantanamo from the "Marblehead" and "Texas," and had a brisk skirmish.
- June 12-14.—General Shafter embarked at Tampa for Santiago with an army of 16,000 men.
- June 15.—Caimanera forts bombarded by our warships. Admiral Camara with a fleet of ten of Spain's best warships left Cadiz for Manila.
- June 20-22.—General Shafter disembarked his army of invasion at Baiquiri, with a loss of one man killed and two wounded.

- June 21.—Angara, capital of Guam, one of the islands of Ladrones, captured by the "Charleston."
- June 24.—Juragus captured and the Spanish were defeated at Las Guasimas. Heavy losses on both sides, among the Americans being killed were Capron and Fish.
- June 28.—General Merritt left for Manila to assume command of the American army operating in the Philippines.
- July 1-2.—Terrific fighting in front of Santiago, and El Caney and San Juan were carried by assaults in which the American loss was great.
- July 3.—Admiral Cervera's squadron of four armored cruisers and two torpedo-boat destroyers annihilated by Commodore Schley's blockading fleet. The surrender of Santiago was demanded by General Shafter.
- July 6.—Hobson and his comrades were exchanged for six Spanish officers.
- July 8.—Admiral Camara was ordered to return with his fleet to Cadiz to protect Spanish coast threatened by American warships.
- July 10.—A second bombardment of Santiago, which severely battered Morro Castle.
- July 11.—General Miles joined the American Army before Santiago and conferred with General Shafter as to the means for reducing the city.
- July 17.—After the expiration of two periods of truce, General Torral surrendered Santiago and the eastern province of Cuba to General Shafter.
- July 20.—General Leonard Wood was appointed Military Governor of Santiago, and entered upon his duties by feeding the hungry, clothing the destitute, and cleaning the city.

- July 21.—The harbor of Nipe was entered by four gunboats, which, after an hour's fierce bombardment, captured the port.
- July 25.—General Miles, with 8,000 men, after a voyage of three days, landed at Guanica, Porto Rico. He immediately began his march towards Ponce, which surrendered on the 28th.
- July 26.—The French Ambassador at Washington, Jules Cambon, acting for Spain, asked the President upon what terms he would treat for peace.
- July 30.—The President communicated his answer to M. Cambon.
- July 31.—The Spaniards made a night attack on the Americans investigating Manila, but were repulsed with severe losses.
- August 9.—A large force of Spanish were defeated at Coomo, Porto Rico, by General Ernst. The Spanish Government formally accepted the terms of peace submitted by the President.
- August 12.—The peace protocol was signed, an armistice proclaimed and the Cuban blockade raised.
- August 13.—Manila was bombarded by Dewey's fleet and simultaneously attacked by the American land forces, under which combined assaults the city surrendered unconditionally.
- August 20.—Great naval demonstration in New York harbor.
- August 22.—All troops under General Merritt remaining at San Francisco ordered to Honolulu.
- August 23.—Bids opened for the construction of twelve torpedo boats and sixteen destroyers. General Merritt appointed governor of Manila. General Otis assumed command of the Eighth Corps in the Philippines.

- August 25.—General Shafter left Santiago.
- August 26.—President officially announced the names of the American Peace Commissioners. Last of General Shafter's command leaves Santiago for this country.
- August 29.—Lieutenant Hobson arrived at Santiago to direct the raising of the "Maria Teresa" and "Critobal Colon."
- August 30.—General Wheeler ordered an investigation of Camp Wikoff.
- September 2.—Spanish Government selected the peace commissioners.
- September 3.—President visits Montauk.
- September 9.—Peace Commission completed by the appointment of Senator Gray. President ordered investigation of War Department.
- September 10.—Spanish Cortes approved Peace Protocol.
- September 11.—American Porto Rico Evacuation Commission met in joint session at San Juan.
- September 12.—Admiral Cervera left Portsmouth, N. H., for Spain.
- September 13.—Spanish Senate approved Protocol. Evacuation of Porto Rico began. Queen Regent signed Protocol.
- September 17.—American Cuban Evacuation Commissions met in joint session at Havana. Peace Commissioners sailed for Paris.
- September 20.—Spanish evacuation of outlying ports in Porto Rico began. First American flag raised in Havana.
- September 24.—Jurisdiction of Military Governor Wood extended to embrace entire province of San-

- tiago de Cuba. First meeting of the War Investigating Committee held at the White House.
- September 25.—Lieutenant Hobson floated the "Maria Teresa." Revenue cutter "McCulloch" captured insurgent steamer "Abbey" near Manila.
- September 27.—American Peace Commissioners received by French Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- September 28.—American Commissioners convened in Paris.
- September 29.—Spanish and American Commissioners met for the first time at breakfast given at the Foreign Office, Paris.
- October 1.—Peace Commissioners held first joint session.
- October 4.—2,000 irregular Spanish troops revolted near Cienfuegos and refused to lay down arms until paid back salaries. Battleship "Illinois" launched at Newport News.
- October 10.—American flag hoisted over Manzanillo, Cuba.
- October 12.—Battleship "Iowa" and "Oregon" left New York for Manila.
- October 16 .- Opening of Peace Jubilee in Chicago.
- October 18.—United States took formal possession of Porto Rico.
- October 24.—Spanish evacuation of Porto Rico completed.
- October 25.—Philadelphia Jubilee began with naval parade in the Delaware.
- October 30.—Cruiser "Maria Teresa" left Caimanera for Hampton Roads.
- October 31.—American Peace Commissioners demanded cession of the entire Philippine group.

- November 5.—"Maria Teresa," cruiser, reported lost off San Salvador.
- November 8.—"Maria Teresa" reported ashore at Cat Island.
- November 21.—American ultimatum presented to Spanish Peace Commissioners.
- November 25.—First United States troops landed in Hayana Province.
- November 28.—Spain agreed to cede Philippines.
- November 30.—Blanco left Havana for Spain.
- December 10.—Peace treaty signed.
- December 11.—Small riot in Havana. Three Cubans killed.
- December 14.—General Lee arrived in Havana.
- December 23.—Iliolo surrendered to insurgents. Aguinaldo's "Cabinet" resigned.
- December 24.—Peace treaty delivered to President McKinley.
- December 27.—American Evacuation Commissioners issued a proclamation to the inhabitants of Cuba.
- December 31.—Last day of Spanish sovereignty in Western Hemisphere.

- January 1.—The American flag raised over the Palace at Havana.
- February 4-5.—Filipinos attack and try to burn Manila.
- February 6.—Treaty with Spain ratified by the Senate.
- February 10.—Bombardment and capture of Caloocan. Capture of Iliolo by General Miller.

- March 17.—Queen Regent of Spain signs the peace treaty.
- March 25.—A general advance against the Filipinos.
- March 26.—Colonel Harry C. Egbert killed near Malinta.
- March 31.—Assault and capture of Malolos, the Filipinos' capital.
- April 4.—Philippine Commission addresses a conciliatory proclamation to the insurgents.
- April 11.—General Lawton defeats the Filipinos at Santa Cruz. Final exchange of the ratifications of the Paris peace treaty. Proclamation of President McKinley, announcing restoration of peace between Spain and America.

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